

# SINGAPORE Heritage Fest

## MEDIA RELEASE

### SET SAIL INTO THE STORIES AND COMMUNITIES SHAPING SINGAPORE'S MARITIME HERITAGE AT SINGAPORE HERITAGEFEST 2026

*Singapore HeritageFest presents over 100 programmes spanning cultural performances, guided trails, water and land tours, workshops and exhibitions to celebrate Singapore's enduring connection to the sea and its journey as a global maritime hub.*



**Singapore, 21 April 2026** — *Singapore HeritageFest (SHF)* returns from **1 to 24 May 2026**, celebrating Singapore's rich maritime heritage with over **100 programmes across the island**. Now in its 23rd edition and organised for the first time by **HeritageSG (HSG)**, a subsidiary of the National Heritage Board (NHB), the festival brings to life the stories, trades, and communities that shaped our historic waterways and continue to define our island identity today.

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2 Qazim Karim, *SHF 2026* Festival Director said, “Singapore’s story is inseparable from the sea. From bustling ports and thriving trades to the communities who lived and worked along our shores, our maritime heritage is a living legacy that continues to shape our identity today. As a steward of Singapore’s cultural and heritage ecosystem, *SHF* brings together partners across communities to present collaborative programmes that explore maritime heritage from multiple perspectives, deepening public engagement with our shared histories. Through these experiences, we invite everyone to journey through our maritime past and celebrate the shared heritage that connects us all.”

3 *SHF 2026* comes alive through the passion and creativity of over **100 community partners and heritage practitioners**, presenting programmes that range from innovative reimaginings of port life to hands-on encounters with age-old seafaring traditions. Returning supporters include YHS Singapore (Yeo’s) as *SHF*’s Official Partner for the third consecutive year, and Stellar Ace, marking their sixth consecutive year as Official Sponsor. New community partners, including Aroma Nostalgia, Kebon Dapor, Thong Siek Global, Singapore Navy Museum and more, add fresh perspectives to the line-up, offering festival-goers even more ways to explore Singapore’s maritime heritage and its continued relevance. A festival highlight, **HOMEGROUND @ ACM Green**, brings visitors closer to Singapore’s maritime heritage through exhibitions, performances, and workshops celebrating the importance of our roots. In conjunction with its 30th anniversary, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) will present a series of programmes including guided tours, vessel visits, and maritime-themed trails.

## Dive into Singapore’s rich maritime heritage

4 This year, festival-goers can embark on a captivating journey through Singapore’s maritime past, exploring how trade, migration, beliefs and practices, and naval history have shaped the island we know today. Some highlights include:

- **New *SHF* programmes**

- Journey across time and immerse yourself in the lively tales of the 1930s to today with ***Port of Dreams***, a roving theatrical experience set against the backdrop of The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore and historic Clifford Pier.

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- Sail down the river that brings us life at ***A Bump Through Time***, SHF's first-ever theatrical bumboat experience, where festival-goers discover the Singapore River anew through interactive encounters along Clarke Quay and Marina Bay, revealing how trade, migration and storytelling shaped this vibrant crossroads of cultures.
  - Unearth Southeast Asia's seafaring past at ***SHIPPED: Memoirs from Our Maritime World By ArCH Square***, a special showcase of maritime archaeology featuring submerged treasures and underwater discoveries.
  - Feel the rhythms of the sea at ***Culture Beats @ CapitaLand***, a high-energy maritime-themed music showcase at Bugis+ and CQ @ Clarke Quay, featuring dynamic percussion, movement and multicultural sounds.
  - Dance through time with DJ-spun contemporary hits and maritime beats in ***Wave & Rave*** at RASA Space, where sounds are inspired by the diverse cultures that shaped our island and its seafaring past.
  - Gain deeper insights into Singapore's maritime past with a lecture series, in collaboration with the **National Library Board**, featuring expert talks on how trade routes, port life, and migration shaped the island's growth and cultural landscape.
- **Uncover the stories behind Singapore's bustling ports and global trade**
    - Get an insider's look at one of the world's busiest ports, in ***Unlocking Singapore's Port Legacy: A Behind-the-Scenes Maritime Journey***, an exclusive experience that starts at MPA's Singapore Maritime Gallery and features a rare bus tour into PSA Singapore's container terminals, including those in the city centre that will be decommissioned by 2027, and Pasir Panjang Terminals.

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- Get a glimpse into the craft of spice-making with ***Spice to Meet You! Stories from The Spice Maker***, as Anthony The Spice Maker shares how his family's spice trade began and evolved across generations.
  - Step into Singapore's last remaining fishery port in Jurong with ***Fish to Port - Fishery Port Tour by Pasar Fish***, a behind-the-scenes tour showing how fresh seafood makes its way from dock to table.
  - Learn about the rich legacy of the spice trade with ***The Fullerton Heritage Spice Trail By the Fullerton Hotel Singapore***, an exclusive walking tour that reveals how the spice routes shape our port city's identity.
  - Follow the journey of a cocoa bean across oceans to become the world's finest chocolate in ***A Cocoa Bean Adventure: Discover the Wonders of Global Trade by ONE***, a lively picture book reading of *Jean-Pierre Travels the Seven Seas*, where young audiences can also take part in an onsite art contest.
- **Trace the voyages that brought people, cultures, and flavours to Singapore**
    - Discover how port life shaped what we eat today and the rise of street hawkers on a family-friendly trail with ***From Port to Plate by Chewy Collective***, complete interactive missions, and finish with a hands-on craft experience inspired by Singapore's enduring hawker culture.
    - Craft your own popiah at the ***Kway Guan Huat Joo Chiat Popiah Workshop***, learning key techniques and ingredient secrets from local makers while exploring how this beloved delicacy reflects generations of cultural exchange and shared food traditions.
    - Blend your own perfume in ***Scents of the Nusantara: Perfume-Making Workshop by Aroma Nostalgia***, using resins, woods, florals, and spices carried across Southeast Asian ports to craft a fragrance shaped by shared histories.

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- Experience the rhythm of the expressive Indian classical dance form of Kathakali in ***Cherita Singapura by Bhaskar's Arts***, a performance retelling the fabled sea voyage of Sang Nila Utama and the naming of Singapore.
- Discover Singapore's coastal heritage through all five senses at ***Tastes of the Tides: Laksa Siglap by Changi Chapel and Museum's***, as you see, smell and touch traditional ingredients to recreate the rare, rich flavours of Singapore's coastal kampongs.
- **Experience the beliefs and practices that shaped maritime life**
  - Embark on the ***Mazu Heritage Tour: Goddess of the Sea An ICH Journey Through Singapore's Maritime Past***, an immersive trail from Thian Hock Keng Temple to traditional wooden vessels, uncovering how maritime beliefs anchored early settlers and continue to shape Singapore today.
  - Venture into Singapore's last kampong with ***Haunting Tales of Ubin by Supernatural Confessions***, an immersive night tour exploring the island's beliefs, practices, and the captivating human stories behind its hauntings.
  - Join the folk extravaganza in ***Tides of Heritage by ATAM***, where diverse multicultural folk arts groups use music, dance, stagecraft, and storytelling to bring to life Singapore's connection to the sea.
  - Discover the meanings behind traditional batik motifs like clouds and waves, once used by seafarers across Southeast Asia, and stamp your own maritime story-cloth to take home at ***Woven Waves: Reading Stories in Batik by Children's Museum Singapore***
  - Join ***Tied to the Tides by Reflections at Bukit Chandu*** for a hands-on family adventure learning more about the coastal fishing traditions and the kelongs that once shaped life along our shores.
- **Chart the course and celebrate Singapore's naval history**

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- Join **Navy Day 2026** — A celebration of the 59th anniversary of the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), featuring base windshield tours, guided museum visits, live performances, and interactive sharing sessions.
- Step back in time with **Battleships and Bunkers by Hidden Heritage**, a guided walk exploring Sembawang's coastal and naval history, from kampong life and long-lost shorelines to wartime defences and naval life.

## Return of festival favourites

5 A signature *SHF* offering, *HOMEGROUND* returns as a vibrant marketplace reflecting how early migrants and their journeys shaped the nation. Set against the historic waterfront at the ACM, **HOMEGROUND @ ACM Green** brings together exhibitions, workshops, craft showcases and performances taking place on Fridays and Saturdays throughout the festival period. Anchoring the festival's highlight experience is the *HOMEGROUND* exhibition on maritime and migration. The exhibition is designed by local illustrator and visual artist HAFI, and it opens on 24 April. Festival-goers can expect new experiences at *HOMEGROUND @ ACM Green* each weekend, and can follow *SHF*'s social channels to discover the latest offerings and plan their next visit.

6 Another signature *SHF* programme, **Ride & Discover**, returns to bring maritime heritage into the rhythms of daily life, transforming daily commutes into moments of discovery. By turning MRT stations and transit spaces into accessible heritage touchpoints, the activation meets people where they are, offering interactive panels, immersive displays, and bite-sized insights revealing the journeys, exchanges, and connections behind Singapore's maritime story.



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7 *SHF 2026* mascot, Pitta the migratory bird, will also make surprise appearances across the island. Festival-goers are invited to keep their eyes peeled on their commute and snap a photo to share on Instagram with [@sgheritagefest](#), [#SGHeritageFest](#), [#SHF2026](#) and [#ISeaYou](#) for a chance to win and redeem a limited-edition *SHF* keepsake at *HOMEGROUND*.

8 *SHF 2026* programmes will be open for registration from 22 April 2026, 12pm. Members of the public may visit <https://www.heritage.sg/sgheritagefest> for more information on the programmes, and how to register.

9 Please scan the QR code below or visit [bit.ly/SHF-2026-MediaKit](https://bit.ly/SHF-2026-MediaKit) for full programme details.

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<https://www.heritage.sg/sgheritagefest> | [#SGHeritageFest](#)  
[@sgheritagefest](#) ([Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [TikTok](#))

Please refer to this [Digital Media Kit](#) for more detailed information and visual assets.

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## **About HeritageSG**

HeritageSG (HSG) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Heritage Board (NHB), a statutory board under Singapore's Ministry of Culture, Community, and Youth (MCCY). Established to strengthen sector capabilities and unlock new synergies across the museum and heritage ecosystem, HSG brings greater agility and responsiveness to the evolving needs of Singapore's heritage sector.

As the creative force behind flagship events – including Children's Season, the Singapore HeritageFest, and Singapore Night Festival – HSG brings Singapore's rich heritage to life for diverse audiences through immersive experiences and innovative storytelling.

HeritageSG manages key heritage institutions such as the Children's Museum Singapore, Changi Chapel and Museum, and Reflections at Bukit Chandu, and leads initiatives spanning archaeological research, travelling exhibitions, and interactive digital experiences. By collaborating with partners across the ecosystem and blending tradition with technology, HSG strengthens heritage touchpoints and fosters meaningful encounters that contribute to our shared national identity and pride.

Find out more at <https://www.heritage.sg>

## **About the National Heritage Board**

The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience and imparting our Singapore spirit.

NHB's mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, safeguards and promotes intangible cultural heritage, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the

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past, present and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit [www.nhb.gov.sg](http://www.nhb.gov.sg) for more information.

## **About Singapore HeritageFest**

The Singapore HeritageFest (SHF) is HeritageSG's signature annual outreach festival celebrating the rich diversity of Singapore's heritage and culture. The festival works closely with individuals, groups and communities to co-create programmes and experiences, uncovering lesser-known stories and narratives while fostering a sense of ownership among Singaporeans to safeguard and promote our shared heritage. Since its inaugural edition in 2004, SHF has continued to present both on-site and online offerings, with each edition anchored by a yearly theme that spotlights different facets of Singapore's heritage.

## **About Stellar Ace**

Stellar Ace is Singapore's leading Out-of-Home (OOH) media company, bringing everyday journeys to life through powerful brand storytelling. We transform daily commutes into memorable experiences, connecting brands with millions of consumers through a dynamic mix of static and digital touchpoints islandwide.

As a subsidiary of SMRT Corporation, Stellar Ace operates an expansive media network spanning SMRT stations, retail spaces, road assets, and 100% of Singapore's Bus Shelter Advertising Assets inventory — offering brands unrivalled reach and visibility. With exciting advancements in digital innovation and programmatic technology, Stellar Ace is shaping the future of intelligent OOH advertising — creating smarter, sharper, and more impactful ways for brands to engage audiences on the move on every street and every screen.

## **About YHS (Singapore) Pte Ltd (Yeo's)**

Yeo Hiap Seng is a Singapore-based heritage brand that has pioneered innovations in Asian beverages for more than a century. It is the first in the world to package Asian drinks in Tetra Brik aseptic cartons using UHT process and the first to offer curry chicken in canned form. Yeo's popular range of soybean and chrysanthemum drinks are widely sold in Asia, Europe and North America.

The Group serves more than 30 markets around the world where the Yeo's portfolio of Asian food and beverages are known for its authentic flavours and exceptional quality. More than 80%

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of its beverages are from healthier choice products, making them the natural choice among consumers. To celebrate SG60, Yeo's has launched a special commemorative packaging to accompany its Orchid Chrysanthemum Tea, freshly brewed with Grade 'A' Hang Bai Ju chrysanthemum flowers and delicately infused with our national flower.

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